

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A radio communication terminal comprising:
input means for inputting a user instruction for
setting said radio communication terminal to either one
of first and second modes;

display means for displaying information
corresponding to input of the user instruction, said
display means displaying information at selective first
brightness and second display brightness lower than the
first display brightness;

setting means for setting said radio communication
terminal to either one of the first and second modes in
accordance with the input to said input means, and
outputting a mode setting output; and

control means for controlling said display means,
said control means causing said display means in the
first mode to display information at the first display
brightness during a first time period and at the second
display brightness after a lapse of the first time
period, and causing said display means in the second
mode to display information at the first display
brightness during a second time period longer than the
first time period and at the second display brightness
after a lapse of the second time period.

2. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein
said display means includes a display for
displaying information visible at the second display

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brightness, and illumination means for illuminating said display with a light beam to display information on said display at the first display brightness, and

5 said control means sets the first and second time periods in accordance with one set mode, and turns said illumination means on for either one of the set first and second time periods.

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3. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein
10 the first mode corresponds to a normal mode in which speech is made using said radio communication terminal, and the second mode corresponds to an information reception mode in which data is received via a radio channel, and

15 said control means sets the second time period when the information reception mode corresponding to the second mode is selected.

4. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein
10 the first mode corresponds to a normal mode in which speech is made using said radio communication terminal, and the second mode corresponds to a mail creation mode in which mail is created via said input means, and

25 said control means sets the second time period when an information reception mode corresponding to the mail creation mode is selected.

5. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein
the first mode corresponds to a normal mode in

which speech is made using said radio communication terminal, and the second mode corresponds to a mail browsing mode in which mail is browsed via said input means, and

5 said control means sets the second time period
when an information reception mode corresponding to the
mail browsing mode is selected.

6. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein said control means includes update means for, when a new user input is supplied during either one of the first and second time periods, updating said one time period.

7. A method of controlling display means in
a radio communication terminal having the display means
for displaying information corresponding to input of
a user instruction, the display means displaying
information at selective first brightness and second
display brightness lower than the first display
brightness, comprising:

the step of inputting a user instruction for
setting the radio communication terminal to either one
of first and second modes;

the step of setting the radio communication terminal to either one of the first and second modes in accordance with the input, and outputting a mode setting output; and

the control step of controlling the display means,
the control step including causing the display means in

the first mode to display information at the first
display brightness during a first time period and at
the second display brightness after a lapse of the
first time period, and causing the display means in the
second mode to display information at the first display
brightness during a second time period longer than the
first time period and at the second display brightness
after a lapse of the second time period.

8. A method according to claim 7, further
comprising the update step of, when a new user input is
supplied during the first and second time periods,
updating the time periods.

9. A method according to claim 7, wherein
the first mode corresponds to a normal mode in
which speech is made using the radio communication
terminal, and the second mode corresponds to one of
an information reception mode in which information is
received via a radio channel, a mail creation mode in
which mail is created, and a mail browsing mode in
which mail is browsed, and

the control step includes setting the second time
period when the second mode is set.

10. A method of controlling a terminal having
a display section which can display information visible
at one of a brightness mode and a darkness mode in
response to a key input, comprising steps of:
setting the brightness mode to have a first time

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period in response to the key input;

setting the brightness mode to have a second time period longer than the first time period in response to a predetermined key input for setting the terminal to have a predetermined function;

5 maintaining the brightness mode during the one of the first and second time periods, which is previously set;

10 resetting the brightness mode to have the one time period to continue the brightness mode during the one time period; and

switching the brightness mode to the darkness mode after a lapse of the one time period, the first time period and second time period.

15 11. A method according to claim 10, wherein the predetermined function corresponds to one of a wireless application protocol mode for displaying data received from the outside of the terminal, and a mail mode for sending or receiving mail from the outside of the terminal.

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